(f) whether in view of what has been stated above, will Government reject this proposal; if not, what are the reason therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) to (f) A Committee was set up in November, 1984 to prepare a report on alternative models for the marketing and distribution of LPG with the following officials:

1. Shri V. Lobo, Director (SP)— Oil Coordination Committee. *Convenor*

2. Shri J. S. Oberoi, General Manager (NR)— Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. *Member*

3. Shri J. S. Kikkeri, General Manager (LPG)— Hindustan Petroleum Corpn.—*Member*

4. Shri K. S. Anirudsinhji, GM (Sales) Bharat Petroleum Corpn.—*Member*

The Committee submitted its report in June, 1985 and the recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

Withdrawal of criminal cases pending against HPC and IOC officials

74. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: SHRI L. GANESAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the Kerala State Government for withdrawal of criminal cases pending against officials of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation and Indian Oil Corporation in connection with adulterated kerosene oil supply resulting in fire accidents;

(b) whether Government took into consideration crime branch (CID) reports of Kerala before asking for the withdrawal of these criminal cases; if so, what were the comments thereon; and

(c) whether Government will allow justice to take its own course and see that negligent officials are not shielded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) In the light of the findings of the Technical Committee appointed by Government, it has been suggested to the Government of Kerala to withdraw the criminal cases registered against officials of the oil companies following the contaminated kerosene accidents early this year.

(b) Some points raised by the Crime Branch of the Kerala Police were taken into consideration by the Technical Committee while formulating its Report.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Production of Crude Oil

75. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the production of crude oil during the last two years and in 1985 so far and what is the percentage of increase;

(b) what steps are being taken to increase the production;

(c) what is the requirement and availability of crude oil in the country;

(d) what is the programme for production during the next three years;

(e) the amount of foreign exchange spent on the import of crude oil during the last three years, year-wise; and

(f) by when the country will be self-sufficient in crude oil ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS(SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) The production of crude oil in the country in the last two years and the current year has been as under:—

Year	Production (Million Tonnes)	Percentage increase over previous year
1983-84	26·02	23·6
1984-85	28·99	11·4
1985-86 (Apr-Sep.)	14·4	..

(b) Some of the steps are:—

(i) Use of enhanced oil recovery techniques;

(ii) Intensification of work-over operations; and

(iii) Induction of advanced technology.

(c) During 1984-85, the requirement of crude oil was 41·7 million tonnes, the domestic production was 28·99 million tonnes.

(d) The estimated production of crude oil during the next three years is as under:—

Year	Million Tonnes
1986-87	30·36
1987-88	31·48
1988-89	31·91

(e) The value of net import of crude oil during the last three years has been as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Value
1982-83	2981
1983-84	2310
1984-85 (Provisional)	1867

(f) As exploration for oil is highly probablistic in nature, it would not be possible to say with any certitude when self-sufficiency can be attained.

Production of LPG cylinders

76. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the firms which are engaged in the production of LPG cylinders along with their capacities;

(b) what was the total production of LPG cylinders by these firms